## Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 1, 2023

The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

Thank you for all the work you've done to bring a humanitarian pause and bring about the return of innocent hostages. Your Administration has met this incredibly complex multifaceted conflict with the highest level of diplomacy and leadership in the pursuit of peace.

This pause in violence is set to expire tomorrow, and it is our fervent hope that negotiations can continue and extend the current pause in hostilities and continue the release of those held hostage by Hamas. We urge you to use your immense influence and the full power of your office to continue negotiations and extend the bilateral pause beyond tomorrow so that both sides can build towards a bilateral ceasefire and, ultimately, a two-state solution

Recognizing the ongoing conflict, we acknowledge the devastating impact these atrocities have had on innocent lives. We stand united to promote peace, stability, and justice for all people. Too many innocent lives have been lost already. The bloodshed must end. We are committed to standing steadfast with your Administration in calling for an extension of this pause and building on these negotiations toward a permanent two-state solution.

We acknowledge that a unilateral ceasefire is impossible. One side of a conflict cannot create peace on their own. It is essential that this ceasefire be bilateral. Both sides must come to the table in agreement; only then can we lay the groundwork to create a true two-state solution.

By rejecting hate, terrorism, prioritizing the protection of innocent lives, providing humanitarian assistance and engaging in meaningful dialogue, we can lay the groundwork for a better future for all people in the region. We call upon all parties involved to demonstrate the humanity, courage, empathy, and commitment necessary to achieve a comprehensive and sustained peace in the region.

Again, we thank you for everything that you have done to push towards peace and know that is your ultimate goal. A release of all hostages and an immediate bilateral ceasefire will not only stop the bloodshed but ultimately lead us to peace in the region.

Sincerely,

Troy Carter

Member of Congress

Bennie G. Thompson Member of Congress

Valerie P. Foushee Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr. Member of Congress

André Carson Member of Congress Bonnie Watson Coleman Member of Congress

Nikema Williams Member of Congress

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Terri A. Sewell

Member of Congress

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.

Member of Congress